

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of inflammation and/or wound healing in aquatic animals, comprising administering to said aquatic animals a preparation comprising 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least some of the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans are water soluble.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least some of the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans are not water soluble.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans which are not water soluble are in microparticulate form.

20. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation further comprises vitamins, minerals, carotenoids, amino acids, lipids, peptides, nucleotides, bioflavinoids, oils, yeasts, algae and/or polysaccharides.

21. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the preparation further comprises vitamin C.

22. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the vitamin C is ascorbyl polyphosphate.

23. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation further comprises an additive having bacteriostatic or bacteriocidal activity.

24. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is by injection.

25. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is by bath or water immersion treatment.

26. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is oral administration.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the preparation is in the form of a powder, gel, liquid, tablet or capsule.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the preparation is added to animal feed.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is topical administration.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation is substantially soluble in water.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of inflammation and/or wound healing in aquatic animals, comprising administering to said aquatic animals a preparation comprising 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans.